



MALIK SAJJAD RIZVI

BASIC ENGLISH GRAMMAR NOTES

ABSTRACT

**The most useful for the students and teachers also.
We will study here about “Parts of speech, Article,
sentence, Clauses, Phrases with types and many
more.**

**Written & Composed by Lecturer M. Sajjad Malik
Contact No. 03004067490**

PARTS OF SPEECH

A REVIEW FOR STUDENTS

A part of speech (also called lexical categories, grammatical categories or word classes) is a linguistic category of words.

There are Eight Parts of Speech. We will add one more type: articles to digest the article use of A / An and The.

A list of parts of speech in English grammar include the following:

NOUNS

PRONOUNS

ADJECTIVES

VERBS

ADVERBS

PREPOSITIONS

CONJUNCTIONS

INTERJECTIONS

ARTICLES

We will study here about “Parts of speech, Article, sentence, Clauses, Phrases with types”.

NOUN

A noun is a naming word; a noun is a word used to refer to people, animals, objects, substances, states, events, ideas and feelings.

Noun is a word which names a person, a place or a thing. Everything has a name and every name is a NOUN.

Examples: Car, Book, Computer, House, Chair, etc.

There are many kinds of noun.

Types of Noun Forms and Functions

1. Common Noun
2. Proper Noun
3. Material Nouns
4. Abstract Noun
5. Collective Noun
6. Compound Noun
7. Count/countable Noun
8. Mass/uncountable Noun
9. Verbal Noun

Before describing noun kindly remember we have two categories of “Noun” **(i) Animate Noun (ii) Inanimate Noun.**

Animate nouns refer to a person, animal, or other creature (man, elephant, chicken...) An **inanimate noun** refers to a material object (stone, wood, table...)

Common Noun

A common noun is the word used for a common class of person, place or thing. Or Name of a common or a non-specific thing, place, or person is called common noun.

Examples: book, pen, room, garden man, girl, road, camera, month, day, chair, school,

Proper Noun

Name of a particular or a specific thing, place or person is called proper Noun.

Examples: Quaid-e-Azam, Shakargarh, BMW Car, April, Monday, Tayyab, Asad etc.

If a common noun is specified it becomes a proper noun. Similarly car is a common noun but if it is specified like BMW Car, it becomes proper noun.

Note: The first letter of proper noun is always written in capital letter.

Examples:

- Khadija lives in Pakistan.
- I study in Mon – Ami.
- Author of the book (Baang-e-Jibraeel) is Allama Iqbal.

Material Noun

Material Noun is the name of a material or a substance or an ingredient of an alloy and

which we can touch. E.g. Sugar, Sand, Salt, Tea Leaves, Soil, Water, etc.

Examples:

Cotton dress is cheap. I purchased a gold ring. This is a shop for diamonds. Calcium is good for health. Plastic is for ordinary use. Iron is very useful metal. It is made of wood.

Abstract Noun

An abstract noun is a word which names something that you cannot see, hear, touch, smell, or taste, it is an action or state. It is the opposite of a concrete noun.

Examples: Anger, Anxiety, Beliefs, Bravery, Brilliance, Chaos, Charity, Childhood, Comfort, Communication, Compassion, Courage, Culture, Opportunity, Pain, Patience, Peace, Pleasure, Pride, Relaxation, Sacrifice, Satisfaction, Skill, Strength, Success, Sympathy, Talent, Thought, Trust, Truth, Warmth, and Wisdom.

- I fear the night. (In this sentence, "fear" shows action so it is a verb).
- We feel proud on our Pakistan Army.

Collective Noun

Collective noun is a noun which stands for a group or collection of people or things.

Examples: Army, team, crowd, audience, minority, navy, public, school, society, committee....

- The government is doing a good job.
- He prefers an audience that arrives without expectations.
- The whole family was sitting around the table.

Compound Noun

A compound noun is a noun that is made with two or more words. A compound noun is usually two or more nouns combined to form a single noun (Sometimes, they are hyphenated.)

Examples: • Mother-in-law • Court-martial • Class fellow • Cooking-oil • Grandfather

Count / countable Noun

A count noun is something which we can count. It has a singular form and a plural form. They can be counted. (That's why they are called "countable nouns").

Examples: one book, three books; a leg, two legs; an apple, six apples, many friends.

MASS / Uncountable Noun

The definition of a mass noun is a noun that names something that cannot be counted.

Examples: Advice, air, blood, equipment, food, garbage, grass, information, knowledge, mathematics, milk, money, water

Verbal / Gerund Noun

At the same time it is the subject of the verb and functions as a noun. Such a form of the verb ending in -ing and used as a noun is called a gerund or verbal noun. It is acting just like a noun.

Examples: This bad drawing of a house is not acceptable for your project. "Drawing is a verbal noun". It is acting just like a noun. It was a lovely building. Reading is my hobby.

PRONOUN

Pronoun is a word that is used instead of a noun, (A pronoun is used in place of a noun or nouns). A pronoun is used in the place of a noun or phrase.

E.g. He, She, It, I, We, They, Her, Him, Its, etc.

Examples: Moeed is an intelligent student. He is my younger brother. He goes to school daily. He studies a lot. He is making preparation for examination. He will get high marks examination.

In the above paragraph pronoun "he" is used instead of noun "Moeed". If we do not use pronoun in above paragraph we will have to use the noun "Moeed" again and again in each sentence. So, the purpose of pronoun is to avoid the repetition of a noun.

Examples: He, she, it, they, you, I, we, who, him, her, them, me, us, whom, his, its, their, your, mine, our and whose, myself, himself, herself, yourself, which, this, that these, those, are the pronouns which are mostly used.

Types of Pronoun

Pronoun can be divided into following groups.

1. Personal Pronouns:

E.g. I, you, He, she, it, they, who, me, him, her, them, whom

2. Subject Pronouns:

E.g. he, She, I, we, you, hey, it,

3. Possessive Pronouns:

E.g. yours, mine, his, hers, ours, theirs,

4. Objective Pronouns:

E.g. him, her, me, us, them, it,

5. Reflexive Pronouns/ Intensive Pronouns:

E.g. myself, himself, herself, itself, yourself, ourselves, themselves

6. Reciprocal Pronouns:

E.g. each other, one another

7. Relative Pronouns:

E.g. who, whom, whose, which, that

8. Demonstrative Pronouns:

E.g. this, these, that, those

9. Indefinite Pronouns:

E.g. all, another, any, anybody, somebody, anything, everybody, both, each one, etc.

10. Interrogative Pronouns:

E.g. who, which, what, when, how, why,

11. Numerical Pronouns:

E.g. one, two, three, second, third, many etc

Personal Pronouns / Subjective Pronoun

“Personal / Subjective pronoun describes a particular person or thing or group” or

“Personal pronouns replace people and things. These are: he, she, it, they, him, her, and them.

Example: He helps poor. The pronoun “he” in this sentence describes a person who helps poor.

Use of Personal Pronouns

SINGULAR				PLURAL		
Persons	Subjective Pronoun	Possessive Pronoun / Adjective	Objective Pronoun	Subjective Pronoun	Possessive Pronoun	Objective Pronoun
1 st person	I	my, mine	Me	we	our, ours	us
2 nd person	you	your, yours	You	you	your, yours	you
3 rd person	he she it	his her, hers its	Him her it	they	their, theirs	them

Examples: She is an intelligent girl. They are playing chess. He sent me a letter. It is raining.

Subjective Pronouns

A subjective pronoun acts as the subject of a sentence. It performs the action of the verb. The subjective pronouns are he, she, it, I, we, you and they

Example: He spends summer vacations with his friends.

“He” is working as a subject here. The pronoun who is spending his vacation is “he”. I play football. After lunch, she and I went to the Park. We offer prayers five times in a day.

Possessive Pronouns

Possessive Pronoun indicates close possession or ownership or relationship of a thing/person to another thing/person.

E.g. yours, mine, his, hers, ours, theirs, hers

Example: This book is mine.

The pronoun “mine” describes the relationship between book and a person (me) who possesses this book or who is the owner of this book.

That car is hers. Your book is old. Mine is new. The pen on the table is mine. The smallest cup is yours. The voice is hers. The car is ours not theirs. I have lost my camera. May I use yours?

Subject pronouns	Possessive pronoun	Object pronouns	Reflexive pronouns
I	My / mine	me	myself
You	Your / yours	you	yourself
He	His / his	him	himself
She	Her / hers	her	herself
It	Its / its	it	itself
We	Our / ours	us	ourselves
You	Your / ours	you	yourselves
They	Their / theirs	them	themselves

Objective Pronouns

An objective pronoun acts as the object of a sentence it receives the action of the verb. The objective pronouns are her, him, it, me, them, us, and you.

Examples: He gave me a book. Take a picture of him, not us

Reflexive Pronouns / Intensive Pronouns

Reflexive pronoun describes noun when subject's action affects the subject itself.

E.g. himself, yourself, herself, ourselves, themselves, itself are reflexive pronouns.

Reflexive pronouns always act as objects not subjects, and they require an interaction between the subject and an object.

Note: Reflexive noun can also be used to give more emphasis on subject or object. If a reflexive pronoun is used to give more emphasis on a subject or an object, it is called "Intensive Pronoun". Usage and function of intensive pronoun are different from that of reflexive pronoun.

For example: She herself started to think about herself.

In the above sentence the first "herself" is used as intensive pronoun while the second "herself" is used as reflexive pronoun.

See the following examples of intensive pronouns & reflexive pronouns.

Examples of Intensive Pronouns:

I did it myself. OR. I myself did it. She herself washed the clothes.

He himself decided to go to New York. She herself told me.

Examples of Reflexive Pronouns:

I looked at myself in the mirror. You should think about yourself.

They prepared themselves for completion. He bought a car for himself.

Reciprocal pronouns

A reciprocal pronoun expresses a mutual action or relationship. In English, the reciprocal pronouns are:

- Each other
- One another

Examples: Two boys were pushing each other. The car and the bus collided with each other. The students in the class greeted one another.

Relative Pronouns

A relative pronoun is a pronoun that introduces a relative clause. Or Relative pronoun is a pronoun which joins relative clauses and relative sentences.

For example: It is the person, who helped her.

In this sentence the word "**who**" is a relative pronoun which refers to the noun (the person) which is already mentioned in beginning of sentence (It is the person)

in above sentence the pronoun "**who**" joins two clauses which are "it is the person" and "who helped her".

Examples:

This is the girl who got first position in class. The car which I like is red.

The man whom I met yesterday is a nice person. This is the boy whose father is doctor.

Demonstrative Pronouns

Demonstrative pronoun is a pronoun that points to a thing or things.

E.g. this, that, these, those, none,

These pronouns point to thing or things in short distance/time or long distance/time.

- **Short distance or time:** This, these.
- **Long distance or time:** That, those.

Examples: This is black. That is heavy. Can you see these? Do you like this? Bilal brought these.

Indefinite Pronouns

An indefinite pronoun does not refer to any specific person, thing or amount from which we cannot identify any person or thing.

Some typical indefinite pronouns are:

all, another, any, anybody/anyone, anything, each, everybody/everyone, everything, few, many, nobody, none, one, several, some, somebody/someone

Examples: I don't like anything about music. Everything is funny. Can anyone answer this question?

Interrogative Pronouns

"Interrogative pronouns are used to ask questions".

The main interrogative pronouns are: who, whom, whose, which, and what. (Whoever, whomever, whichever, and whatever can also be interrogative pronouns).

Examples: Who won the race? Whom shall we ask? Whose did they take? Which is the greater? What is that?

Numerical Pronouns

These are used to show the number or position occupied in a scheme of arrangement. They are of two types:

- **The cardinal:** one, two, three, etc
- **The ordinal:** first; second; third, etc.

Examples:

Ten people were invited but only two interviewed. My father has two houses, the first is in Lahore and the second, is in Islamabad.

ADJECTIVE

"Adjective is used to modify/describe (gives more information about) a noun or pronoun"

For example: tall man, old house, red car. The words "tall, old, red" are adjectives which give more information about nouns "man, house, and car" in these examples. More than one adjective can also be used for a single noun in sentence.

Examples:

- The beautiful girl entered into the room.
- The tall, beautiful girl entered into the room.

- The tall, thin and beautiful girl entered into the room.
- The tall, thin, beautiful and intelligent child entered into the room.

An adjective gives information about the colour, size, characteristic, quality, quantity or personal traits of a noun or pronoun.

Some examples:

- White, red, black, green, purple, yellow, orange, brown, and black are adjectives because they mention the colour of noun or pronoun.
- Beautiful, pretty, ugly, thin, slim, fat, tall, and short are adjectives and they describe physical characteristic of a noun or pronoun.
- Intelligent, brave, courageous, determined, exuberant and diligent are adjective and they describe the personal traits of a noun or pronoun.

Degrees of Adjectives and their use

There are three degrees of adjectives.

1. Positive Adjective 2. Comparative Adjective 3. Superlative Adjective

Positive Adjective

The term positive degree relates to adjectives and adverbs. “An adjective is a word which modifies a noun or a pronoun”.

In the example below:

He's got a beautiful car. **Beautiful** is an adjective modifying car (it gives more information about the noun “car”.)

Examples: Rich, pretty, handsome, good

- He is a rich man.
- This is a good book.

Positive	Comparative	Superlative
Great	Greater	Greatest
Short	Shorter	Shortest
Large	Larger	Largest
Beautiful	More beautiful	Most beautiful
Good	Better	Best
Bad	Worse	Worst
Little	Less	Least
Many	More	Most

- Asma has long hair.
- This class has intelligent students.

Use of comparative adjective

“We use comparatives to compare two things or two people”. (e.g She is taller than her husband.)

Comparative adjectives are used to express characteristic of one thing in comparison to another thing (one thing).

It makes comparison between **two things** (only two things not more than two).

Word “than” is mostly used after comparative adjective but sometimes other words “to” may be used after comparative adjective.

Examples:

Khadija is **taller than** Nayab.

A cup is **smaller than** a glass.

Sitara is **junior to** me.

Chinese is **more difficult than** English.

Pakistan is **more beautiful than** New York.

Soha is **more intelligent than** me.

Use of Superlative adjective

Comparative adjectives are used to express characteristic of one thing in comparison to other things (many things). It makes comparison among things more than two.

Superlative is the highest degree of a thing in comparison to other things.

Note: Article “the” is used before superlative degree. “In” or “of” etc. is used after the superlative adjective and modifying noun in sentence.

Examples:

Brunel is the most beautiful hotel in England.

Mount Everest is the highest mountain in world.

The Nile River is the longest river in the world. Our generation is the most modern.

His house is the biggest in the street.

VERB

Verb is a word which shows action or state of something.

Examples: Write, run, eat, drink, catch, clean, speak, laugh, weep, are some verbs

- He works in a factory. (action)
- I bought a computer. (action)
- Raiha seems happy. (state)
- He resembles his brother.(state)

Kinds of Verb

- Main Verb
- Helping verb & Auxiliary verb
- Modal Verbs
- Transitive Verbs
- Intransitive Verbs
- Stative / State verbs
- Prepositional Verb

Main Verb

A verb which has major meaning in terms of action are called main verb, i.e. write, buy, eat etc.

Helping verb / Auxiliary verb

A verb which supports the main verb to form the structure of sentence, according a specific tense, is called helping verb or auxiliary verb, i.e. is, am, have, was, had, is, will etc.

Examples:

Rimsha is going to read books. ("go" is main verb while "is" is helping verb and "to read" is infinitive) Iqra was eating an apple. ("eat" is main verb while "was" is helping verb)

Modal Verbs (Modal auxiliaries)

Modal verbs are used to express ideas such as ability, possibility, intention or necessity and 1st form of verb is used with these model verbs.

Examples:

- Can, could (ability)
- May, might (possibility)
- Will, shall, would (intention)
- Should (necessity)
- Ought to (moral duty)
- Must (necessity)

Modal verbs can be used before main verb as helping verbs.

Examples: I can play violin. It may rain today. You must learn the test-taking strategies. I will call you.

Transitive and intransitive verbs

Transitive Verbs

A verb which needs to have object in sentence is called transitive verb, because without object it does not convey complete meaning.

Example: He bought _____.

There should be some object in this sentence for verb "buy". Without an object the verb "bought" does not give complete meaning. To make it more meaningful we use some object for verb "bought" i.e. book or computer or car.

More examples: Attia has completed her work. Fiza caught a bird in bushes. She wrote a story.

Transitive verbs can be categorized into two types:

Mono-transitive and Ditransitive

Mono-transitive Verbs are verbs that require exactly one object. A mono-transitive verb is a verb that takes two arguments: a subject and a single direct object.

For example, the verbs buy, bite, break, and eat are mono-transitive in English.

Example:

- Yesterday, I bought a cat.
- The cat bit me!
- He broke the toothpick.
- I told a story.

Di-transitive Verbs are verbs that may require two objects, a **direct object** and an **indirect object**. EG: He gave her the letter. ('The letter' is the direct object, what he gave, and 'her' is the indirect object, the person he gave it to. This sentence can also be written 'He gave the letter to her'.)

Example:

- Hifza offered him (first object) her car (second object).
- I told the children (indirect object) a story direct object).

Intransitive Verbs

"A verb which does not need to have object in sentence is called intransitive".

Intransitive verb can give complete meaning without an object in sentence.

Example: He slept. She is laughing. It has rained. He is running. They arrived.

Stative / State verbs

Some verbs are not usually used in the continuous form, even when we are talking about temporary situations or states. These are called stative verbs.

So, we say I'm sorry, I don't understand rather than I'm not understanding.

Stative verbs are often verbs connected with thinking and opinions.

- She doesn't know what to do NOT She isn't knowing what to do.
- Do you agree with me?
- I don't recognize it, do you?
- 'They love it' or 'They are loving it'?

When a verb describes a state and not an action we do not use the continuous tense.

For example, 'play' is an action so we can say 'playing'.

Grammatically it is not correct to say "I'm loving it".

'Love' is a state verb and so we should say "I love it".

Stative verbs generally fall into 4 groups

- **Emotion:** love, hate, want, need
- **Possession:** have, own, want, belong
- **Sense:** see, hear, smell, seem
- **Thought:** know, believe, and remember

Some **Stative Verbs** are doubt, dislike, understand, suspect, loathe, own, belong, know, like, need, want, seem, mean, believe, forget, remember, prefer, hate, love, see

Here are some more examples of state verbs:

Some verbs can be both state and action verbs.

The meaning of these verbs is then different. Look at these:

- 'I have a car.' – State verb showing possession.

- 'I am having a bath.' – action verb which, in this case, means 'taking'.
- 'I think you are cool.' – State verb meaning 'in my opinion'.
- 'Huma is thinking about buying a motorbike.' – action verb meaning 'considering'.

Prepositional Verb (Verb + Preposition)

"A prepositional verb is a combination of a verb and a preposition". "A prepositional verb is an idiomatic expression that combines a **verb** and a **preposition** to make a new verb with a distinct meaning".

Examples: care for, long for, apply for, approve of, add to, resort to, result in, count on, and deal with. It is just a verb followed by a preposition.

Prepositional Phrase = Verb + Preposition

Some verbs need particular prepositions to be used after them in sentences having a direct object. Such a verb with its required preposition is called a prepositional phrase.

For example:

He knocks at the door. In sentence "knock at" is prepositional phrase which contains a verb "knock" and a preposition "at".

Prepositional Verbs are transitive and they have a direct object in sentence. Some of the frequently used preposition verb are, laugh at, knock at, listen to, look at, look for, look after, wait for, agree to, agree with, talk about, talked to

Examples: Shanza is listening to music. She looked at the blackboard. Amama and Nisar were waiting for the teacher. Someone is knocking at the door. You should not rely on her.

ADVERB

Adverb is a word which modifies (gives more information) about a verb, adjective or other adverb.

E.g. He replied quickly.

The word "quickly" is an adverb which gives more information about verb "reply" in the above example.

Examples (adverbs modifying verbs)

- They live happily.
- Afia is laughing loudly.
- Wania goes to school daily.
- We sometimes get confused.
- He met me yesterday.
- Guests will come here.

Adverbs vs. Adjectives

The difference between an adverb and an adjective is the following:

"An adjective modifies a noun".

Example:

"Moeed is tall." (The adjective tall modifies the noun Moeed)

"An adverb modifies a verb, an adjective or another adverb".

Examples:

- "That idea is simply ridiculous." (The adverb simply modifies the adjective ridiculous)
- "She sings nicely." (The adverb nicely modifies the verb sing)
- "She did it really well." (The adverb really modifies the adverb well)

Examples (adverbs modifying adjectives)

Note: The bold words (in following examples) are adverbs and the underlined words are adjectives.

- It is a **very** difficult problem.
- He is **seriously** ill.
- This book is **really** nice.
- The story of "crazy man" was **truly** funny.
- You are **too** weak to walk.

Examples (adverbs modifying other adverbs)

Note: The bold word (in following examples) is an adverb and underlined word is the other adverb.

- Muskan drives **very** fastly.
- He was talking **too** much angrily.
- He ran fast **enough** to catch the bus.
- Hira lives **very** happily.

Formation of Adverb

Most of adverbs are formed by adding "ly" to adjectives.

For example, happily, easily, quickly, angrily, correctly, fluently, proudly, loudly, rapidly, immediately etc.

Adverb modifies verb by giving us the following information.

- How the action occurs
- Where the action occurs
- How many times action occurs
- At which time the action occurs
- Intensity of action

Types / Kinds of Adverb

Adverbs are categorized on the basis of information it gives, into the following categories.

1. Adverbs of manner
2. Adverb of place
3. Adverb of time
4. Adverb of frequency
5. Adverb of degree

Adverbs of Manner

These adverbs tell us that in which manner the action occurs or how the action occurs or occurred or will occur.

Examples: She speaks loudly. He was driving slowly. You replied correctly. Basma runs fast. They solved the problem easily. Listen to me carefully.

Adverb of Place

Adverb of place tells us about the place of action or where action occurs / occurred / will occur.

E.g. here, there, near, somewhere, outside, ahead, on the top, at some place.

Examples:

- Ali Raza will come here.
- The children are playing outside.
- Umer was standing near the wall.
- They were flying kites on the top of hill.
- Samavia lives somewhere in New York.
- Ahmer went there.

Adverb of time

These adverbs tell us about the time of action.

E.g. now, then, soon, tomorrow, yesterday, today, tonight, again, early, yesterday.

Examples:

- Sitara will buy a computer tomorrow.
- The guest came yesterday.
- Do it now.
- Momina is still waiting for her brother.
- Mamoona got up early in the morning.

Adverb of frequency

Adverbs of frequency tell us how many times the action occurs or occurred or will occur.

E.g. daily, sometimes, often, seldom, usually, frequently, always, ever, generally, rarely, monthly, yearly.

Examples:

- Tehreem goes to school daily.
- She never smokes.
- They always come in time.
- Barking dogs seldom bite.
- The employees are paid monthly.
- The employees are paid every month.

Adverb of degree

An adverb of degree tells us the level or extent that something is done or happens.

E.g. almost, much, nearly, quite, quite, really, so, too, very, etc.

Examples:

- It was too dark for us.
- Her daughter is quite fat for her age.
- She is still feeling very sad about her father's death.

Exercise:

- Sania speaks quietly. (quietly is an adverb of manner.)
- I live here. (here is an adverb of place.)
- We'll leave tomorrow . (tomorrow is an adverb of time.)
- Muneeba never sleeps late . (never is an adverb of frequency.)
- The water was extremely cold. (extremely is an adverb of degree)

Adverb rules**1. Regular adverbs:**

Adverbs in English often end in **-ly**.

These adverbs are formed by adding **-ly** to the end of an adjective:

Adjective + ly

Examples: Adjective Adverb are: slow – slowly, beautiful – beautifully, careful – carefully, violent – violently.

2. Things to remember:

Many words are not adverbs although they end in **-ly**. Here are examples of adjectives that end in **-ly**.

Examples:

- a kindly teacher
- a lonely girl
- an elderly person
- a friendly brother

To decide whether a word is an adverb ask questions with how, where and when.

How does Ammar speak Spanish? He speaks Spanish **fluently**.

Where do the kids play football? They play football **here**.

When did she write the email to her husband? She wrote the email **immediately**.

PREPOSITION

Preposition is a word that shows relation between noun or pronoun and the other words in sentence.

E.g. in, on, at, to, with, under, above, into, by, of etc.

Preposition is always used before a noun or pronoun and shows the relation of the noun or pronoun to the other words in sentence.

The following examples will help in better understanding.

Subject + Verb	Preposition	Noun
Kaynat was sleeping	On	Cot.
He lives	In	Paris
She looked	At	Stranger.
He will come	In	January.

Wedding ceremony will be held	On	20th December.
I was waiting	For	you
Someone is knocking	At	The door.
Sadia came	By	Bus.

Some common prepositions which are mostly used “in, at, on”

In

In is used to locate something **enclosed in a space**.

Examples: In a box, In a car, In a building, In my pocket, In my bag, In New York, In Spain.

They found a lot of money in his pocket. I 've lived in London for two years.

At

At is used to locate something at a certain **point**.

Examples: at the bus station, at the entrance, at the crossroads, at the junction, at the top of the mountain, at John's house.

- We were waiting at the bus stop when it started to rain.
- He was at the entrance of the theater when he heard the noise.

On

On is used to indicate position above and in contact with the **surface** of something

Examples: On the wall, On the floor, On the table, On the ceiling, On the carpet, On the page, On the cover.

- The picture on the wall is fantastic.
- You'll find more information about the camp on this page.

Other Prepositions and their use

Preposition	Explanation	Example
from	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used to show the origin of something or someone • used to show the material of which something is made • used to show a change in the state of someone or something 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "Where are you from?" "I'm from Italy." • The desk is made from pine. • Things went from bad to worse.
of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • used to show possession, belonging or origin 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • a friend of mine

Preposition	Explanation	Example
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> used after words or phrases expressing amount, number or particular unit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a kilo of apples
by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> used to show the person or thing that does something: 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I'm reading some short stories (written) by Chekhov.
on	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> used for showing some methods of travelling entering a public transport vehicle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It'd be quicker to get there on foot / on horse get on the train
in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> entering a car / Taxi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She got in the car and drove fast.
off	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> leaving a public transport vehicle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She got off the bus
out of	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> leaving a car / Taxi 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> She got out of the train
by	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> used to show measurements or amounts travelling (other than walking or horse-riding) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Their wages were increased by 12%. She went by car, by bus, by train
at	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Age 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In theory, women can still have children at the age of 50.
about	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> on the subject of; connected with 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> What's that book about?

Prepositions show many relations (for different nouns) in sentence.

Types of Preposition

1. Preposition for Time
2. Preposition for Place
3. Preposition for Direction
4. Preposition for Agent

5. Preposition for Instrument
6. Prepositional Phrase

Prepositions for Time (in, on, at)

Prepositions used for time of different natures are “in, on, at” etc.

Preposition	Time Nature
In	<p>1. Month or Year. e.g. in January, in 1985</p> <p>2. Particular time of day or month or year e.g. in morning, in evening, in first week of January, in summer, in winter</p> <p>3. Century or specific time in past etc e.g. in 21st century, in stone age, in past, in future, in present</p>
On	<p>1. Day e.g. on Monday</p> <p>2. Date e.g. on 5th of March, March 5</p> <p>3. Particular day e.g. on Independence Day, on my birthday,</p>
At	<p>1. Time of clock e.g. at 5 O'clock, at 7:30 PM</p> <p>2. Short and precise time e.g. at noon, at sunset, at lunch time, at bed time, at the moment, at the same time</p>

Examples:

- I was born in 1990.
- Muskan will go to New York on 25th of March.
- The concert will begin at 7 O'clock.
- Qamar gets up early in the morning.

Preposition for Place (in, on, at)

Prepositions “in, on or at” are usually used for different places.

- “In” is usually used for place which have some boundary (boundary may physical or virtual).
- “On” is used for surface
- “At” is used for specific place.

Preposition	Place Nature
In	Place having some boundary (physical or virtual boundary) Examples: In hall, In school, In a building, In a box, In a car

On	Surface of something. Examples: On a table, On blackboard, On a page, On the wall, On the roof, On a map
At	Specific Place. Examples: At the entrance, At the bottom of glass, At front of the chair, At bus stop

Examples:

- Khadija lived in Sharja.
- Students study in library.
- The wedding ceremony will be held in the hall.
- There are some books on the table.
- The teacher wrote a sentence on blackboard.

Preposition for Direction (To, toward, through, into)

Prepositions like **to**, **towards**, **through**, **into** are used to describe the direction.

Following examples will help in better understanding.

Examples:

- She went to the library.
- He jumped into the river.
- He ran away when he felt that someone was coming toward him.

Preposition for Agent. (By)

Preposition for agent is used for a thing which is cause of another thing in the sentence. Such prepositions are **by**, **with** etc. Following examples will help in better understanding.

Examples:

- This book is written by Shakespeare.
- The work was completed by him.
- The room was decorated by her.
- The tub is filled with water.

Preposition for device, instrument or machine

Different preposition are used by different devices, instruments or machines.

E.g. by, with, on etc. Following examples will help in better understanding.

Examples:

- She comes by bus daily.
- Waleeja opened the lock with key.

Prepositional Verb

A prepositional phrase is a combination of a verb and a preposition. It is just a verb followed by a preposition.

Prepositional Phrase = Verb + Preposition

Some verbs need particular prepositions to be used after them in sentences having a direct object. Such a verb with its required preposition is called a prepositional phrase.

For example: He **knocks at** the door.

In above sentence “knock at” is prepositional phrase which contains a verb “knock” and a preposition “at”.

Prepositional Verbs are transitive and they have a direct object in sentence.

Some of the frequently used preposition verb is, laugh at, knock at, listen to, look at, look for, look after, wait for, agree to, agree with, talk about, and talked to

Examples:

- Ayesha is listening to music.
- Maryam looked at the blackboard.
- They were waiting for the teacher.
- Do Rimsha and Hera agree with me?
- Does she agree to my proposal?
- Someone is knocking at the door.
- You should not rely on her.

The Infinitive

The infinitive is the base form of the verb, often followed by “to”. (**to + 1st form of Verb**)

Read these sentences:

I want to go. They tried to find out fault with us.

The forms to go and to find are: “infinitives.”

Examples: Birds love to sing. To respect our parents is our duty. He refused to obey the orders.

CONJUNCTION

“A conjunction is a part of speech that joins two words, phrases or clauses together”.

E.g. and, but, or, nor, for, yet, so, although, because, since, unless, when, while, where are some conjunctions.

Examples:

- She tried but did not succeed.
- Kinza does not go to school because she was not in Pakistan.
- Wania and Muskan went to marriage ceremony.
- Farah thought for a moment and kicked the ball.
- I waited for him but he didn't come.
- You will be ill unless you quit smoking.
- We didn't go to the market because it was raining outside.

Single word Conjunction: Conjunction having one word

E.g. and, but, yet, because etc.

Compound Conjunction: Conjunction having two or more words

E.g. as long as, as far as, as well as, in order that, even if, so that etc.

There are three types of conjunctions:

- **Coordinating Conjunction**
- **Subordinate Conjunction**
- **Correlative Conjunction**

Coordinating Conjunctions	Common Subordinating Conjunctions	Correlative Conjunctions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For • and • nor • but • or • yet • so 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • after • before • although • though • even though • as much as • as long as • as soon as • because • since • so that 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • either...or • neither...nor • not only...but also • both...and • whether...or

Coordinating Conjunction

Coordinating conjunctions, also called coordinators, are conjunctions that connect two or more equal items.

Coordinating conjunctions are short words i.e. and, but, or, nor, for, so, yet.

Coordination conjunction joins two equal parts of a sentence,

- Word + word
- Phrase + phrase
- Clause + clause
- Independent clause + independent clause.

Examples:

- **Word + word:** She likes tea and coffee.
- **Phrase + phrase:** He may be in the room or on the roof.
- **Clauses + clause:** What do you eat and what do you drink affect your health?
- **Independent clause + independent clause:** The cat jumped over the mouse and the mouse ran away.

In the following examples, coordinating conjunctions join two words of same importance.

- Nayab likes pizza and cake. (pizza and cake)
- Samaira bought a table and a chair. (table and chair)
- He may come by bus or car. (bus or car)

In the following examples, conjunction joins two independent clauses.

Independent clause

Independent clause is a clause which can stand alone as a sentence and have complete thought on its own.

- I called him but he didn't pick up the phone.

- I advised him to quit smoking but he didn't act upon my advice.
- He became ill so he thought he should go to a doctor.

Subordinating Conjunctions

Subordinating conjunctions (called subordinators) join subordinate clause (dependent clause) to main clause.

E.g. although, because, if, before, how, once, since, till, until, when, where, whether, while, after, no matter how, provided that, as soon as, even if,

- MAIN CLAUSE + SUBORDINATE CLAUSE
- SUBORDINATE CLAUSE + MAIN CLAUSE

Subordinate clause is combination of words (subject and verb) which cannot stand alone as a complete sentence. Subordinate clause is also called dependent clause because it is dependent on main clause.

Examples:

- Laiba does not go to school because she is ill.
- Ayesha will call you after I reach my home.
- I bought some cookies while I was coming from my office.
- They played football although it was raining.

Correlative Conjunction

“Correlative conjunctions are used in pairs. They work in pairs to coordinate two items”. Examples of correlative conjunctions include, both...and..., either...or, not only... but also...

(These are paired conjunctions which join words, phrases or clauses which have reciprocal or complementary relationship.)

The most commonly used correlative conjunctions are as follows

- Either ... or
- Neither ... nor
- Whether ... or
- Both ... and
- Not only ... but also

Examples:

- Neither Memoona nor Tehreem told a lie.
- Give me either a cup or a glass.
- Both red and yellow are attractive colours.
- I like neither tea nor coffee.
- He will be either in the room or in the hall.
- Farah can speak not only English but also Urdu.

INTERJECTION

Interjections are short words which show strong feeling or emotion, which is used to show a short sudden expression of emotion. Interjections are used to show surprise or emotion.

E.g. oh! Ah! Wow! Hurrah! Alas! Ouch! Oops! Aha! Hey! Etc.

Interjections are short exclamations which express strong or sudden feeling of

- Joy
- Sorrow
- Wonder

Exclamation sign is used after interjections.

Sign of interjection is !

Examples:

- Hurrah! We have won the competition. (Joy)
- Ouch! It hurts. (Sorrow)
- Wow! What a nice shirt. (Wonder)
- Alas! My parents are dead. (Sorrow)
- Oh! I forgot to bring my purse. (Sorrow)

Besides these specific interjections, a normal word can also be used as interjection if it is used to express feeling or emotion.

- No! Don't touch it, its hot.
- What! I am selected for the job?
- Help! I am about to fall.
- Well! I will try my level best.

ARTICLES

English language has two articles, “**A / AN / THE**”. An article is used for a noun. An article like an adjective modifies a noun.

For example, a book, the book, a cup, the cup, an umbrella, the umbrella. The article “the” is called definite article and the article “a/an” is called indefinite article.

What is an article?

Basically, articles are either **definite** or **indefinite**. They combine to a noun to indicate the type of reference being made by the noun.

- The **definite** article is **the**.
- The **indefinite** article is **a / an**.

An article is used before a noun or an adjective modifying a noun.

Indefinite Article (A / An)

“The article **a / an** is used when we don't specify the things or people we are talking

about" or "The definite article "**a / an**" is used for indefinite, non-specific or non-particular (common) noun"

Example: He bought a shirt.

The article "a" before shirt in above sentence means that the shirt he bought is any shirt and not a specific shirt.

- I met **a** friend.
- I work in **a** company in Dubai.
- I borrowed **a** pencil from **a** passenger sitting next to me.

The indefinite article a is used before a consonant sound or before single noun: a dog, a pilot, a teacher, a university

NOTE: Although 'university' starts with the vowel 'u', it is not pronounced as such.

The indefinite article an is used before a vowel sound:

- an engineer
- an elephant
- an athlete

Article a / an is not used before uncountable nouns

E.g. water, milk, sand etc.

Article a / an is used for certain expressions of quantity

E.g. **a** lot of, **a** few, **a** couple, **a** dozen

Article a / an is used before a singular, countable noun in exclamation.

E.g. What **a** beautiful flower! What **a** nice shirt!

Definite Article (the)

"The definite article "**the**" is used for a definite, specific or particular noun". "It's used when the speaker talks about a specific object that both the person speaking and the listener know".

Example: He bought **the** shirt.

The article "the" before the noun "shirt" in above sentence means that the shirt, he bought, is a specific or particular shirt and not any shirt.

- "He drank **the** water" (some specific water- for example, the water his wife brought him from the kitchen) or "He drank **water**." (any water)
- The car over there is fast.
- The president of **the** Pakistan is giving a speech tonight.

Rules for using definite Article (the)

Note: When we speak of something or someone for the first time we use **a** or **an**, the next time we repeat that object we use the definite article **the**.

- I live in a house. The house is quite old and has four bedrooms.
- I ate in a Chinese restaurant. The restaurant was very good.
- The teacher helped a student and the student became happy.

The old lady. The girl with blue eyes. The Boy that I saw. The nice red shirt.

The best day. The only method The second month...

The New York City, The River Nile, The library of Congress...

Before the names of organizations

E.g. The Association of Chartered Accountants. The World Health Organization...

Before names of scientific principles, theories, laws etc.

E.g. The Pythagorean Theorem, The laws of Newton, The Fahrenheit Scale. But no article will be used for these names if written in forms like, Newton's Law, Dalton's Law of Partial Pressures,

Article “The” is not used for names of universities if written in forms like Oxford University, Yale University and Columbia University.

But article “The” is used if names of university are written in forms like The Khaliqia Educational Complex, The University of Yale, The University of Punjab.

Article “The” is not used for names of countries.

E.g. Pakistan, New York, America, Japan, London, Egypt.

But article “The” is used for a name, if it expresses a group of place, states, or land.

E.g. The Pakistanis, The United States, The Philippines, The Netherlands

No article:

1. Do not use an article with countries, states, counties or provinces, lakes and mountains except when the country is a collection of states such as "The United States".

- He lives in Washington near Mount Rainier.
- They live in Northern British Columbia.
- They climbed Mount Everest.

2. We do not normally use an article with plurals and uncountable nouns to talk about things in general.

He writes books. She likes sweets. Do you like jazz music? She ate bread with butter in the morning.

SENTENCE

Sentence

A group of words which expresses a complete idea or thought is called a sentence.

Example: He bought a car.

The above group of words expresses a complete idea. Such combination of words is called a sentence.

Now, look at another group of words “book a read him”. This group of words does not make a complete sense so it cannot be called a sentence.

A sentence is a combination of words including a subject and a verb which express a complete idea. A sentence begins with a capital letter and ends with a period, question mark or exclamation mark.

Note: A sentence consists of two parts i.e. **subject** and **predicate**.

Sentence = Subject + Predicate

For example in the sentence "Maidah writes good poems" Maidah is the **subject** of the sentence and writes good poems is the **predicate**. We will discuss about predicate in next page

Examples:

- Sajjad got 810 marks out of 850 in 10th class.
- Tehreem has gone to Lahore.
- What are you doing?
- What a beautiful flower!

Simple and complex

Simple sentences contain one clause:

- The girl is learning how to drive

Complex sentences contain more than one clause.

- The girl who is learning how to drive is still twelve years old.
- She faced the whole trouble with courage and managed to solve the problem all by herself.

Kinds of sentences:

There are four kinds of sentences.

Assertive or Declarative Sentence

It makes a statement and ends with a period.

E.g. Iram goes to school. He likes to play chess. They are singing a song. Applicants will be answered in due time.

Interrogative Sentence

Asks a question and ends with question mark. ?

E.g. Where are you going? Do you use your laptop? Does Sir Sajjad teach you English?

Imperative Sentence

Gives a command or makes a request.

E.g. Show me your photo album, please. (a request)

Open the door. (an order)

Please help me. (a request)

Exclamatory Sentence:

Expresses strong feelings or emotions.

These sentences express surprise, joy, sorrow, appreciation, love excitement, frustration, anger etc. An exclamatory sentence ends with exclamation mark. !

E.g. What a beautiful flower it is!

- How nicely she is talking!
- Hurrah! We won the match!
- Laiba got 518 marks in 9th class!
- What a beautiful dress she is wearing!

SUBJECT AND PREDICATE

Subject

The part of sentence which performs some action in a sentence is called Subject. A subject has a close relationship to what is being discussed in sentence.

A subject can be a noun, pronoun, and noun clause or noun phrase.

Examples: Hamid likes to play cricket.

Hamid is the **subject** and likes to play cricket acts as a predicate.

I wrote him a letter. I is the Subject and wrote him a letter acts as a predicate.

Predicate

The part of sentence which tells about the subject is called predicate.

In traditional grammar, a sentence consists of two parts:

- a subject,
- a predicate which modifies the subject.

Example: Eman likes hockey.

“Eman” is the **subject** and “**likes hockey**” acts as the **predicate** (a subsequent description of the subject which is headed with the verb likes.)

Predicates provide information about the subject, such as what the subject is doing or what the subject is like. It must contain a verb but may also contain other sentence elements. These elements may be objects (direct and indirect objects), adverbials...

Example:



In the above example, “she” is a subject because it performs an action of washing clothes. While the rest part of the sentence “is washing her clothes” is predicate of sentence because it tells something (washing her clothes) about the subject.

- He laughs. (Predicate containing only a verb)
- Mazhar writes poems.
- They gave me a gift.
- He saw her in the hospital.

When the subject and the predicate are connected with a linking verb, the predicate is either nominal, adjectival or adverbial complement:

Nominal predicates: He is the president. These are the candidates.

Adjectival predicates: She is beautiful. They are careless.

Adverbial complement: He is in the kitchen. We are in the house.

CLAUSE AND PHRASE

A **clause** is defined as a group of related words that contains a subject and predicate (verb).

E.g. He came.

A **phrase** is defined as a group of related words that does not contain a subject and a verb. It is a group of words (in a sentence) that does not contain both subject and verb and does not express a complete idea.

E.g. on the table.

Example: He is laughing at a joker.

The above sentence has two parts “he is laughing” and “at a joker”.

The first part of the sentence “he is laughing” is a clause because it has a subject (he) and a predicate (is laughing).

The second part of the sentence “at a joker” is a phrase because it does not contain subject and verb. The difference between a clause and a phrase is that a clause consists of both subject and verb, but a phrase lacks a subject and verb.

Examples:

The underlined part of each of following sentences shows a clause, while the rest part (non-underlined) of each sentence shows a phrase.

Affaq reached school in time. I was standing near a wall. They are reciting in a loud voice. Saeed made tea for the guests. Aniba bought a book for his friend.

Clause

“A clause is a group of related words containing a subject and a predicate.”

Example: He will meet me in office.

A sentence consists of one, two or more clauses.

Examples:

- Basar is sleeping. (One clause)
- The kids were laughing at the joker. (One clause)
- The teacher asked a question but no one answered. (Two clauses)
- I like Mathematics but my brother likes Biology, because he wants to become a doctor. (Three clauses)

Types of Clause

There are **two** major types of clauses.

- Independent / Main clauses
- Dependent / Subordinate clauses

Independent clause

An independent clause, also called a main clause, is like a sentence. It consists of a subject and a predicate and can stand alone like a sentence.

Examples:

- She died last week.
- He likes her.
- I met the boy who had helped me.
- The teacher asked a question but no one answered.

In the above sentences each underlined part shows main clause. It expresses complete thought and can stand as a sentence that is why a main or an independent clause is normally referred as a simple sentence.

Subordinate or dependent Clause

Which does not express complete thoughts and depends on another clause (main clause) to express complete thought.

Subordinate clause does not express complete idea and can't stand as a sentence. A sentence having a subordinate clause must have a main clause.

Example: He likes Chinese rice which tastes good.

The clause "which tastes good" in above sentence is a subordinate clause because it does not express complete thought and can't stand as a sentence. It depends on main clause (he likes Chinese rice) to express complete thought.

Examples:

I met the boy who had helped me. He takes medicine because he suffers from fever.

Subordinate / dependent clauses are further divided into three types.

Types of Subordinate Clause

A subordinate (dependent) clause may function as a noun, an adjective or an adverb in sentence. On the basis of their function in a sentence, subordinate clauses can be divided into following types.

1. Noun Clause
2. Adjective Clause
3. Adverb Clause

Noun Clause: "A dependent clause that functions as a noun in a sentence is called noun clause." A noun clause can function as:

- a subject
- an object

Example: **What he did** made a problem for his family.

In above sentence the clause "what he did" functions as a noun, hence it is a noun clause. A noun clause works as a noun that acts as a subject, object, or predicate in a sentence. A noun clause often starts with words "*that, what, whatever, who, whom, whoever, whomever*".

- What you have done pleased so many fans. (What you have done → subject)
- Whoever comes first will score a point. (Whoever comes first → subject)

- I think that he is the best match for her. (that he is the best match for her → object)
- You know what you have done. (what you have done → object)
- Whatever you learn will help you in future. (Noun clause as a subject)
- What you said made me laugh. (Noun clause as a subject)
- He knows that he will pass the test. (Noun clause as an object)
- Now I realize what he would have thought. (Noun clause as an object)

Adjective Clauses

“A dependent clause that functions as an adjective in a sentence is called adjective clause.”

An adjective clause works like adjective in a sentence. The function of an adjective is to modify (describe) a noun or pronoun. Similarly a noun clause modifies a noun or a pronoun.

Example: He wears a shirt which looks nice.

The clause “which looks nice” in above sentence is an adjective clause because it modifies noun “shirt” in the sentence. An adjective clause always precedes the noun it modifies.

- I met the boy who had helped me.
- An apple that smells bad is rotten.
- The book which I like is helpful in preparation for test.
- The house where I live consists of four rooms.
- The person who was shouting needed help.

Adjective clause begins with relative pronoun (that, who, whom, whose, which, or whose) and is also **relative clause**.

There are two types of adjective clauses:

- Restrictive or defining clauses
- Non-restrictive or non-defining clauses

Restrictive / Defining Clauses

Restrictive (also called defining) clauses give essential information about the noun.

These clauses don't require commas.

Examples:

- The man who is standing there is a secret agent.
- The writer who won the Nobel Prize is from Pakistan.

Non-restrictive / non-defining clauses

Non-restrictive (also called non-defining) clauses give extra or non-essential information about the noun. These clauses require commas.

Examples:

- Fast food, which most people love, is not very healthy at all.
- My uncle, who is a farmer, lives in the countryside.

Adverb Clause

1. “A dependent clause that functions as an adverb in a sentence is called adverb clause”
2. “An adverb clause (also called adverbial clause) is a dependent clause (or subordinate clause) which functions as an adverb”.

Types of adverb clauses

There are many types of adverb clauses:

Type	Example
Place	He thinks he will be happy <i>where he has recently moved</i> .
Time	He wrote the book <i>when he was 25</i> .
Manner	The kids cleaned the room <i>as we wanted</i> .
Reason	I forgave him <i>because I liked him</i> .
Purpose	They bought a piece of land so that they can build a bigger house.
Concession	Although he is very old, he runs fast.
Condition	<i>If I had a lot of money</i> , I would travel around the world.
Comparison	He can run <i>as fast as a world champion</i> .

- Don't go before he comes.
- He takes medicine because he is ill.
- Although he tried a lot, he couldn't climb up the tree.
- Unless you study for the test, you can't pass it.
- I will go to the school unless it rains.
- You are safe as long as you drive carefully.
- You can achieve anything provided that you struggle for it.

PHRASE

A **phrase** is defined as a group of related words that does not contain a subject and a verb. It is a group of words (in a sentence) that does not contain both subject and verb, and does not express a complete idea.

Examples:

- He is laughing at a joker.
- She is making tea for the guests.
- He always behaves in a strange way.
- The boy in the red shirt is my cousin.
- The boy, with a book in his hand, won a prize.
- He is standing near a wall.

A sentence may consist of one or more phrases.

- The boy in the red shirt behaves in a strange way.

Types of Phrases:

Phrases are divided into various types:

Noun Phrase, Verb Phrase, Prepositional phrase, Adjective Phrase, Adverb Phrase, Infinitive Phrase, Gerund Phrase, Participle Phrase, and Absolute Phrase

Noun Phrase

A noun phrase consists of a noun and other related words (usually modifiers and determiners) which modify the noun. It functions like a noun in a sentence.

Noun Phrase = noun + modifiers (the modifiers can be after or before noun)

Examples:

- Love is a beautiful feeling. ("Love" is a noun phrase without modifiers. However, "a beautiful feeling" is a noun phrase that includes a noun, feeling, and the determiner a and the adjective beautiful)
- My house is over there. (My house is a noun phrase which consists of the noun house and a modifier - the possessive adjective my)
- A cat that refused to meow
Cat = noun; a, that refused to meow = modifiers

Verb Phrase

A verb phrase is a combination of main verb and its auxiliaries (helping verbs) in a sentence.

A verb phrase can have up to four parts. The pattern looks like this:

Auxiliary Verb + Main Verb + Verb Ending When Necessary

Examples:

- Had cleaned
Had = auxiliary verb; clean = main verb; ed = verb ending.
- Has been sleeping
Has been = auxiliary verbs; sleep = main verb; ing = verb ending.
- Must wash
Must = auxiliary verb; wash = main verb.

Here are the verb phrases in action:

- Mom **had** just **cleaned** the refrigerator shelves when I take my juice.
- Ali **has** **been sleeping** for four hours.
- If guests are coming for dinner, we **must** **wash** our cars & floor!

Prepositional Phrase

"A prepositional phrase begins with a preposition and end with a noun, pronoun, gerund, or clause, the "object" of the preposition".

The object of the preposition often have one or more modifiers to describe it.

These are the patterns for a prepositional phrase:

- Preposition + Noun, Pronoun, Gerund, or Clause

- Preposition + Modifier + Noun, Pronoun, Gerund, or Clause

Examples:

- On time
On = preposition; **time** = noun.
- Underneath the sagging yellow couch
Underneath = preposition; **the, sagging, yellow** = modifiers; **couch** = noun.

A prepositional phrase will function as an adjective or adverb.

- A boy on the roof is singing a song. (As adjective)
- The man in the room is our teacher. (As adjective)
- She is shouting in a loud voice. (As adverb)
- Nouman always behaves in a good manner. (As adverb)

Adjective Phrase

An adjective phrase is a group of words that functions like an adjective in a sentence. It consists of adjectives.

An adjective phrase functions like an adjective to modify (or tell about) a noun or a pronoun in a sentence.

Examples:

- Abdullah is wearing a nice red shirt. (Modifies shirt)
- The girl with brown hair was talking to me. (Modifies girl)
- Sana gave me a glass full of water. (Modifies glass)

Prepositional phrases and participle phrases also function as adjectives so we can also call them adjective phrases when they function as adjective.

In the above sentence “The girl with brown hair is singing a song”, the phrase “with brown hair” is a prepositional phrase but it functions as an adjective.

Adverb Phrase

An adverb phrase is a group of words that functions as an adverb in a sentence. It consists of adverbs or other words (preposition, noun, verb, modifiers) that make a group with works like an adverb in a sentence.

An adverb phrase functions like an adverb to modify a verb, an adjective or another adverb.

Examples:

- Abdul Salam always behaves in a good manner. (Modifies verb behave)
- She always drives with care. (Modifies verb drive)
- He sat in a corner of the room. (Modifies verb sit)

A prepositional phrase can also act as an adverb phrase. For example in above sentence “He always behaves in a good manner”, the phrase “in a good manner” is a prepositional phrase but it acts as adverb phrase here.

Infinitive Phrase

An infinitive phrase begins with an infinitive [to + simple form of the verb]. It will often

include objects and/or modifiers that complete the thought. An infinitive phrase always functions as an adjective, adverb or a noun in a sentence.

Examples:

- Sheraz likes to read books. (As noun/object)
- To earn money is a desire of everyone. (As noun/subject)
- He shouted to inform people about fire. (As adverb, modifies verb shout)

Gerund Phrases

A gerund phrase consists of a gerund (verb + ing) and modifiers or other words associated with the gerund. A gerund phrase acts as a noun in a sentence.

Examples:

- She started thinking about the problem. (As noun/object)
- Sleeping late in night is not a good habit. (As noun/subject)
- Weeping of a baby woke him up. (As noun/subject)

Participle Phrase

A participle phrase consists of a present participle (verb + ing), a past participle (verb ending in -ed or other form in case of irregular verbs) and modifiers or other associate words. A participle phrase is separated by commas. It always acts as an adjective in a sentence.

Examples:

- The kids, making a noise, need food. (modifies kids)
- I received a letter, mentioning about my exam. (modifies letter)
- The table, made of steel, is too expensive. (modifies table)
- We saw a car, damaged in an accident. (modifies car)

Absolute Phrase

Absolute phrase (also called nominative phrase) is a group of words including a noun or pronoun and a participle as well as any associated modifiers. Absolute phrase modifies (give information about) the entire sentence. It is separated by a comma or pairs of commas from the rest sentence.

“An absolute phrase combines a noun and a participle with any accompanying modifiers or objects”. The pattern looks like this:

Noun + Participle + Optional Modifier(s) and/or Object(s)

- Her fingers flying over the mobile.

Fingers = noun; **flying** = participle; **her, over the mobile** = modifiers.

Examples:

- Zain looks sad, his face expressing worry.
- She was waiting for her friend, her eyes on the clock.
- Haroor is painting on a wall, his shirt dirty with paint.